**The Great Gatsby: The Author, The Era**

***It was an age of miracles, it was an age of art, it was an age of excess, and it was an age of satire.” – F. Scott Fitzgerald***

We will begin our time with F. Scott Fitzgerald’s The Great Gatsby by exploring and learning about the novel’s author and the time period in which he and Gatsby lived. In groups, you will be assigned to specific questions related to Era, Author or Novel.

As a group, you will research and complete the assigned questions on this sheet, but you will also choose one of three strategies for a mini-presentation. Will you conduct a mock interview with F. Scott Fitzgerald, or perhaps his wife, Zelda? Will you take the class through a tour of the era or novel setting? Or will you design a book cover and blurb representing the setting or themes of the novel? The choice is yours!

All research must be completed by the end of the class period **Monday, Jan. 28**. Presentations and assignment sheets will be due by the end of the class period on **Tuesday, Jan. 29**.

Era:

Who was the “Lost Generation”?

What was the 19th Amendment? When was it passed?

What was the 18th Amendment? When was it passed?

What is a Speakeasy? Why did they become prevalent in the 1920s?

What was the role of Prohibition in fueling the rise of organized crime?

Who were flappers? What did they look like?

Useful resources:

Pages of book

http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/Departments/hpolscrv/jbolhofer.html

http://iweb.tntech.edu/kosburn/history-202/The%201920s.htm

http://www.ourdocuments.gov/doc.php?flash=true&doc=63

<http://www.albany.edu/~wm731882/organized_crime1_final.html>

http://www.colorado.edu/AmStudies/lewis/1025/flapperjane.pdf

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/miami/peopleevents/pande06.html>

Author:

Where was F. Scott Fitzgerald born?

Who were Fitzgerald’s parents?

How did Fitzgerald’s family earn a living when he was a child and teenager?

Who did Fitzgerald meet while in the army?

When Fitzgerald wrote The Great Gatsby, was he famous or unkown? What was his reputation?

When did the Fitzgeralds move to Great Neck, Long Island? Why?

Where was The Great Gatsby written and revised?

Pages of book

Useful Links: http://www.sc.edu/fitzgerald/biography.html

Novel:

What is the setting of The Great Gatsby?

Who are the novel’s major characters?

**Please stick to suggested websites, so the plot is not given away in your research!**

http://www.bookdrum.com/books/the-great-gatsby/9780141182636/setting.html

http://www.brighthubeducation.com/homework-help-literature/40046-the-great-gatsby-characters/